

THE AMERICAN RESEARCH CENTER IN EGYPT, INCORPORATED

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COLLÈGE DE FRANCE
Cabinet d'Égyptologie
Inventaire B .. 10495



THE ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of Members of the American Research Center in Egypt, Inc., was called to order in the Trustees' Room of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, on November 16, 1963, at 3:10 P.M., with Dr. William Stevenson Smith, President, in the chair and 154 members present in person or by proxy. It was particularly gratifying to the President and the members participating in the meeting to have the Honorary President, Mr. Edward W. Forbes, in active attendance.

The Expanded Activities of the Center

The President opened the meeting with a brief account of the present state of the Center. He referred the membership to Newsletter No. 49 (August, 1963), in which the plans for the expanded Center were announced. Since then the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University has joined the Center as an Institutional Member.

The President announced that our contract with the Government of the United States for expansion of the Center under Public Law 480 was signed on the basis of a general verbal approval from the Egyptian Government. This general approval has now been confirmed by a note from the Egyptian Foreign Office to our Ambassador in Cairo.

Late in September, Mr. Ray Winfield Smith left for Cairo to serve as Acting Director of the Center in Egypt. The President reported that as of this morning, November 16, 1963, Mr. Smith had been appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as Director for the coming season. Mr. Smith's report for his first few weeks of service is as follows:

Report of the Director in Cairo

In view of the terms of the contract now in effect between the Center and the Department of State, it will be convenient henceforth to consider the operations of the Cairo office in terms of years running from July 1 to June 30. Consequently, this report is in a sense an interim report.

The Center occupies offices at 9, Sharia Barazil in Zamalek. While these premises have been hitherto adequate, it is generally agreed that with its expanded operations the Center should move to a more central location. It is hoped that suitable quarters will shortly be found at the northern end of Garden City. This will place the Center within an area occupied by such much-used facilities as the U. S. Embassy, USIS Library, American University, Cairo, the Egyptian Museum, the Hilton, Semiramis, and Sheppard's Hotels, etc. The move will be made immediately after new quarters are found. Such new quarters will not necessarily be considered as the permanent location of the Center.

As of the present date, personnel attached to the Center in various capacities include, in addition to the undersigned, who arrived at the beginning of October, the following persons:

Mr. Nicholas B. Millet
Dr. George T. Scanlon
Mr. Bernard V. Bothmer
Mr. Donald P. Little (Bollingen Fellow)
Mr. Dawson Kiang (Bollingen Fellow)
Miss Jean Keith
Dr. Alexander Piankoff (Advisor)

Mr. Millet is responsible for the archaeological interests of the Center and will leave in mid-November to direct the coming season's excavation in Nubia. Before leaving, however, he will have inspected the forthcoming site at Fostat, other sites in the Delta, and will have been in charge of a visit to the Monastery of St. Catherine in Sinai.

Dr. Scanlon will spend some time with Mr. Millet in Nubia before beginning his own excavation at Fostat. Final details of this project are currently being worked out with the Egyptian authorities. It is hoped that it will be possible as an extension of the Fostat project to undertake studies of vast numbers of glass and ceramic fragments which have accumulated through the years at the Fostat storerooms.

Mr. Bothmer has inspected several possible sites for the excavation of New York University to take place in the course of 1964.

Mr. Little is actively pursuing his study of early Islamic manuscripts, and Mr. Kiang is at Alexandria working on Hellenistic sculpture. Miss Jean Keith has been recently attached to the Center by the UAR-USA Educational Exchange Commission. She is in the UAR on the Fulbright program for the purpose of doing research on a group of unpublished herms and Ptolemaic heads. Mr. Bothmer will assist Miss Keith as an advisor. Dr. Piankoff continues his activities under a Bollingen grant, and hopes to carry forward his preparations for a publication of the Royal Tombs in the Valley of the Kings.

Further projects of the Center are in the planning stage, and various fellowship grants are under consideration. Details of these undertakings are being reported separately.

The undersigned plans as soon as possible to make a number of courtesy calls, including one to the Minister of Culture. On this occasion, an important eighth century Arabic papyrus manuscript will be presented to the Egyptian government by ARCE. The document was given to the Center by Dr. Myron B. Smith, with the suggestion that the Center take steps to place it in the Museum of Islamic Art in Cairo.

We are glad to report that relations with the U. S. Embassy are most harmonious. Ambassador Badeau and other officials are sympathetic and most cooperative. Mr. John Slocum, who was helpful to the Center over a long period, has returned to the United States and has been replaced as Cultural Attache by Dr. Robert Bauer, who is already familiar with various of the Center's problems. Relations with officials in the Department of Antiquities are cordial.

Various discussions have been held with American scholars who have been in Cairo in connection with projects that are not specifically supported by ARCE grants. Several of these have expressed an interest in using the Center's headquarters and its facilities as a focal point for their activities during brief stays in Cairo before and after their field activities. Consideration is being given to these matters, and it may well be that the service which can be rendered American scholarship in Egypt by the Center will be further expanded in this way.

Special mention must be made of the continued dedication of Mme. Habichi, who serves so amiably as receptionist at the Center's headquarters. The efficiency of her work is enhanced by the loyal assistance of our office boy, Mohammed.

All in all, the Center in Cairo looks forward to intense activity in the coming months, and optimism is justified by many favorable circumstances, not the least of which is the harmonious relations between all members of the group, quite free from personality clashes or other similar difficulties which might otherwise cast a shadow over the future. Results in the coming months are confidently expected to bear out this favorable assessment.

Ray W. Smith, Director

The Excavation at Gebel Adda

The President gave a summary account of the past season's work at Gebel Adda, carried on as part of the Nubian Salvage Program under the leadership of Nicholas B. Millet. Excavation so far has been mainly in the extensive cemeteries surrounding the citadel, where remains of pyramids of the Meroitic period have been discovered on a site considerably north of the point to which Meroitic influence was previously supposed to have reached. A trial trench was run into the citadel, and work during the coming season will be largely confined to the structures of this promising section of the concession. An illustrated report of the work so far accomplished will appear in Volume II of the Journal of the Center, which is now in press.

Election of Officers

The Executive Committee having recommended that the present officers be retained in office for the coming year, 1963-1964, the members present by unanimous consent instructed the Executive Secretary to cast one vote for the following officers:

President:..... William Stevenson Smith

Honorary President:..... Edward W. Forbes

Vice-Presidents:..... Mrs. Joseph Lindon Smith
John A. Wilson
William Kelly Simpson

Honorary Vice-Presidents:... William Phillips
K. A. C. Creswell

Treasurer:..... Dows Dunham
Assistant Treasurer:..... Mary B. Cairns

Membership Secretary:..... Richard A. Parker

Executive Secretary:..... Elizabeth Riefstahl

Executive Committee:

William Stevenson Smith, Chairman
Robert Adams
John D. Cooney
Dows Dunham
Sir Hamilton Gibb
G. E. von Grunebaum
Richard A. Parker

The Executive Secretary was also instructed to cast one vote for the following Trustees:

Class of 1963-1964:..... Dows Dunham (re-elected)
Bernard V. Bothmer (re-elected)
John D. Cooney (re-elected)
George C. Miles (re-elected)
Charles Issawi

Class of 1961-1966:..... Donald Edgar (to fill the place left vacant
by the death of William C. Hayes)

Report of the Treasurer

In the absence of Mr. Dunham, the President read the following summary of the Treasurer's Report, which was accepted by unanimous vote:

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>Actual, 1962-1963</u>	<u>Estimated, 1963-1964</u>
Dues	\$ 1,935.00	\$ 2,000.00
Dividends	952.51	900.00
Gifts	180.50	150.00
Institutional Members	12,500.00	22,500.00
Journal	643.10	700.00
Transfer from Custodian Acct.....	7,800.93	} Non-recurring
Capital Gains Distribution	355.40	
Refunds	219.40	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Actual Income	\$24,586.84	Estimated.. \$26,250.00

<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>Actual, 1962-1963</u>	<u>Estimated, 1963-1964</u>
Honoraria, Executive Secretary, Assistant Treasurer and Director in Egypt	\$ 1,479.00	\$ 1,080.00
Newsletters	742.13	750.00
General Expenses	1,229.98	1,200.00
Postage, Tel. & Tel. including Newsletters	225.39	250.00
Corporation Filing fees.....	8.00	8.00
Journal.....	5,971.09	5,000.00
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Actual Expenses	\$ 9,655.59	\$ 8,288.00 \$ 8,288.00
Estimated Income \$26,250.00	Expenses for New Local Office	
Estimated Expenses 24,273.00	Rent	\$ 1,920.00
\$ 1,977.00	Utilities	240.00
	Administrative Asst.	5,500.00
	Typist	3,900.00
	Equipment	1,425.00
	Travel in U.S.	3,000.00
		<hr/>
		\$15,985.00 \$15,985.00
	Total Estimated Expenses for 1963-1964.....	\$24,273.00

In commenting on this summary, the President of the Center remarked that the budget for the coming year included expenses for larger quarters and additional personnel made necessary by the expanded activities of the Center.

Report of the Membership Secretary

In Professor Parker's absence, the Executive Secretary read the following report:

During the last year we lost three members due to death, six who resigned, and ten who permitted their membership to lapse. Twenty-eight new members were admitted. This is a net gain of nine in membership.

Our present total of 228 members is divided as follows:

Regular Members	130
Contributing Members	67
Sustaining Members	12
Associates	5
Fellow	1
Life	10
Honorary	3

Richard A. Parker
Membership Secretary

The three members who died during the past year were Professor A. V. Kidder, Dr. W. C. Hayes, and Mr. Russel Tyson, all members since the inception of the Center. The Executive Secretary requested of those present a moment of silence as a memorial.

Mr. Edward L. B. Terrace moved and the members unanimously voted to insert in the minutes a statement of profound regret for the loss of Dr. Wm. C. Hayes, Trustee and valued friend of the Center.

The Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt

Mr. Terrace, the editor, reported that Volume I of the Journal had been most favorably received and commented upon in scholarly circles both in Europe and the United States. Volume II is now in press. It will be remembered that Volume I was paid for out of the Center's capital, with the aid of a few small contributions. That volume went to all members without charge and the total amount recovered through sales on an initial cost of about \$6,500 (of which \$600 represents the color plate donated by the Museum of Fine Arts) was, as of September 30th, less than ten percent of the expenditure. Volume II will be sent only to members paying dues of ten dollars or more annually, and the price for non-members has been increased from five to eight dollars. This will, however, not take care of the cost. Like most scientific publications, the Journal will always have to be subsidized if it is to be made available at a

reasonable price to students and scholars. Efforts to obtain substantial contributions for publication have so far met with no success.

A number of members, in discussion, indicated that the Journal should, at all costs, be continued. It was further suggested that it should contain a section of book reviews, and Mr. Terrace said that such a section was contemplated for future volumes.

The Annual Meetings

Mrs. Elinor M. Husselman of Ann Arbor, Michigan, said that she regretted that no program of papers had been offered this year as at the two preceding meetings of the Center, and voiced the hope that such a program would not be abandoned, and that, moreover, the meeting might be extended to cover two successive days to give time for business sessions and additional papers.

The President pointed out that the program had been only temporarily abandoned, owing to the pressure of work connected with the expansion of the Center and the lack of personnel for planning such a program, and that it was anticipated that the program would be resumed next year.

The Executive Secretary commented on the difficulty of finding accommodation in Boston or Cambridge for meetings and lectures. In reply, Dr. Fischer suggested that the Annual Meeting might be a rotating one, held in various cities, and that local members in each city could be made responsible for accommodations.

No action was taken on these suggestions, which will be referred to the Executive Committee on an early occasion.

Dr. Myron B. Smith moved that a vote of appreciation be given to the President, Dr. William Stevenson Smith, for his valued work in connection with the expansion of the Center, carried on at personal sacrifice of time and energy. His motion was carried with great warmth of applause.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 P.M.

REPORTS OF THE BOLLINGEN FELLOWS

Fellow in Classical Studies

During the eight-month period, October 1962 to June 1963, of which one month was spent in Cairo, the remaining seven in Alexandria, my activities as a Fellow of the American Research Center in Egypt may be summarized as follows:

My own research work on Hellenistic and Roman art in Egypt has, of course, benefited greatly from the opportunity to study objects at first-hand. In general I have concentrated my attention on the Graeco-Roman Museum in Alexandria and the classical material in the Cairo Museum.

Valuable for any appreciation of ancient Alexandria based on archaeological remains have been visits to the well-known monuments and sites in the city as well as those to the west and east, such as Abusir (Taposiris Magna) and Abukir respectively. I also made visits to Abu Menas, Tell Timai (Thmuis), Tanta.

In addition to the director and staff of the Alexandria Museum, with whom a good relationship was established in the course of daily work, contact was made with the Antiquities Department inspector for the Western Delta, members of the staff at the University of Alexandria, and members of the Archaeological Society of Alexandria. These were of considerable help in attending to the needs of visiting American scholars.

As a representative of the Research Center, I gave lectures at the American University at Cairo, the Rotary Club of Alexandria, and the Egyptian Association of University Women in Alexandria.

Essentially I plan to continue my activities of the past season during 1963-1964. At the Alexandria Museum I want at least to begin a systematic study of its important coin collection. This is in some disorder in storage but I hope to work together with one of the curators. Evidently a great number of sites in the Delta alone, not to mention Upper Egypt, remain to be seen. If possible, I plan to devote some time to the rejuvenation of the Alexandria Archaeological Society, which has been relatively inactive for the last six years.

Dawson Kiang

Fellow in Islamic Studies

By February 1, 1964, I hope to complete the manuscript research for my dissertation on Mamluk-Mongol Relations During the Reign of al-Malik al-Nasir and to submit a draft of two chapters to my thesis adviser; by June 1, I hope to submit a draft of the remainder of the dissertation.

If I am able to complete the dissertation according to schedule, I hope to begin editing for publication by the American University at Cairo Press an early fourteenth-century manuscript by Baibars al-Mansuri, al-Tuhfa al-Mulukiyya.

I have delivered two lectures on behalf of the Center: "The Mamluk Cultural Heritage," at an assembly of the American University at Cairo. "History of Cairo" (plus a tour of representative monuments), at the 1963 orientation program for American Fulbright professors and students. This lecture is to be printed by the UAR-USA Educational Exchange Commission in Cairo.

I shall continue to enroll this year in courses at the American University to increase my knowledge of Arabic, and to study, independently, Islamic monuments in Cairo.

To familiarize myself with as much of Egypt and the Arab world as possible, I have visited various towns and villages in Egypt, and I spent a month touring

Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. I plan to return to the United States in June via North Africa.

I have served as acting Director of the Center's office in Cairo during the Director's absence in Nubia and during his vacation.

Donald P. Little

AN EXPEDITION TO SINAI

Cairo, 16, November, 1963

Dear Members:

I think we owe you an account of our trip to Sinai, ably organized for members of the Center's staff by Nick Millet, who put a lot of thought into the project.

The party consisted of seven. In addition to Mrs. Smith and myself, there were Nick, George Scanlon, Bernard and Jerry Bothmer, and Jean Keith. There were no serious difficulties, going or coming, but the primitive roads beyond Abou Zenima, or what pass for roads, take a terrific toll on even the most rugged vehicle. At the best, the trip is long and arduous, so that any thought of regular sleep or meals is out the window. But a glimpse of St. Catherine's is worth all the privations.

We were received most cordially by Professor Weitzmann and his colleagues. The monks at St. Catherine's likewise put themselves out in many ways to be hospitable. We arrived on a Saturday afternoon and left again the following Monday morning. Professor Weitzmann gave us a long personal tour of the monastery, most of our time being spent in the church and the gallery housing the finest of the 2000 icons still in the possession of the monastery.

This monastery is unique in various ways. Built in the sixth century A.D., it has never burned, been captured, or destroyed. The large mosaic in the apse of the basilica is perhaps the most imposing single work of art at St. Catherine's. It dates from the sixth century, and it is substantially in its original condition.

Within the walls of the monastery stands a mosque, which has surely a unique history. When Sultan El Hakim (996-1021 A.D.) advanced towards the monastery with his fanatical troops, intending to demolish it a deputation of monks came out and saved the monastery from destruction by a fabulous forensic maneuver. It was agreed that the spot where the monastery stood was sacred soil, because Mohamed had visited this spot in his youth. Therefore it was agreed that the monks would return to the monastery and erect a mosque. The edifice was completed, according to one account, in the incredibly short space of a matter of hours. When the troops arrived, the monks simply invited them in to worship in the mosque, and the monastery was in this way saved from destruction. In any case the mosque is today there for everyone to see and is

used by the local bedouins, including those who work regularly at the monastery.

The monks at St. Catherine's are surprisingly liberal in their views. For example, no attempt is made to convert the bedouins working there. We observed, furthermore, that local bedouins were permitted to work on minor remodeling and refurbishing of certain rooms on the Sunday we were there.

Professor Weitzmann's expedition has virtually completed its work at St. Catherine's and will probably not need to return next year. During the season just ended, the expedition has completed, through Professor Forsythe's work, the archaeological study of the installations. Vast numbers of photographs of the buildings, and particularly of icons and documents, have been taken. Prof. Weitzmann's study of the icons has produced sensational results. No less than a continuous view of icon painting from the seventh century onward is now afforded. The University of Alexandria will carry out certain further investigations at St. Catherine's, particularly a study of a substantial number of early Arabic documents which are there.

A dramatic illustration of conditions in this vast wilderness was provided by an incident involving Mr. LaMotte, a photographer, who functions as the expedition's medical authority. Word came in that the wife of Moussa, Professor Weitzmann's personal servant, lay seriously ill in the mountains. Mr. LaMotte immediately decided to go to her assistance. As darkness was approaching, and it would have been dangerous for him to have come down off the mountain alone, I volunteered to go with him. We were able to go part way by car, climbing then up a rocky valley until we reached the tiny hut where this bedouin woman and five other people were living. We had been led to believe that she might be in a coma, in which case oral biotics could not have been administered, and the necessary injection could very well have brought on convulsions.

The woman had been bitten more than two weeks previously, possibly by a scorpion, and had had no attention whatever. She had obviously suffered for days from delirium and very high fever, and her heart was affected. The wound had assumed ugly proportions. While Mr. LaMotte cauterized the wound, the patient was unflinching. An interested spectator was a bedouin who served the area as a sort of medicine man. We learned that these quasi-doctors systematically inflict large burns on the bodies of anyone they treat, regardless of what the trouble may be. He watched LaMotte's procedure, but without comment.

As Mr. LaMotte was leaving St. Catherine's three days later, it was necessary to instruct Moussa to have his wife come to the monastery two days later. I now learn that she was able to get there, which involved an hour and a half walk, barefooted, each way. Her condition was much improved, and she apparently escaped death through the dedication of a lay physician. Now that Mr. LaMotte is no longer there, any emergency which may arise with the bedouins in this region will have to run its course without any medical attention whatever, because the nearest physician will be in Suez, one hundred and fifty miles away.

Actually, although he has no medical degree and only two years of pre-medical preparation, Mr. LaMotte seems to have been destined for this sort of

thing. Several years ago, when driving his wife several miles to the hospital for child birth, he was overtaken by a grave emergency when he had to stop and deliver his own child beside the road in the early morning hours.

Sincerely,

Ray W. Smith

A TRAVELLER IN SIDON

Cairo, October 1, 1963

Dear Members:

Founded by the Phoenicians, conquered or dominated by Pharoahs, Philistines, Assyrians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Arabs, Crusaders, Turks, and French, continuously inhabited for some three thousand years, Sidon is historically one of the richest cities in the Near East. Nevertheless, time and invaders have not been kind to Sidon: both have ravaged her, so that (like the other ancient cities on the Lebanese coast) she has few monuments left to attest to her past glory other than a fortress and a castle built by the Crusaders. Therefore, when planning a July tour of Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon, I had decided to allot only one day to Sidon, and most of it I hoped to spend on the beach, tempted and deceived, as it turned out, by the photographs of modern Sidon circulated by the Lebanese Tourist Council. That one day grew into four days, and after my three companions and I had finally left to visit Beirut, Byblos, Tripoli, the Cedars, and Baalbek, we spent a great deal of our time thinking and talking about Sidon. Back again in Beirut to attend the wedding of a Cairo friend, we were met by a Sidon delegation who urged us to return for a fifth day, and back to Sidon we went. Worse yet, with all that time at our disposal, we didn't set foot into the fortress or the castle. All four of us felt guilty. As one member of the party put it, "Tomorrow we'll have to stop having a good time and start seeing things." I was able to convince myself, however, that I needed a breather, having spent the two previous weeks with a Baedeker and a Graeco-Roman-oriented friend on an exhausting tour of the monuments, museums, and excavations of Jerusalem, Jericho, Qumran, Amman, Jerash and Damascus. Besides, as I thought at the time and know now, I was learning a great deal about Arabs during the days I spent in Sidon. There we were almost immediately aware of being accepted as friends, and, as friends felt free to satisfy our curiosity by participating in a way of life and sharing a mentality different from our own. This, I think, was an opportunity which many tourists seek, seldom find, and as such is worth describing here.

It was a good omen that the driver of the taxi-service who took us to Sidon, when asked to recommend a clean, cheap hotel, conducted us to two in the old quarter of town. We did not choose the one run by a garrulous, English-speaking veteran of the Jordanian army, even though he tempted us with his washing machine; the one we did choose was operated by a young man who spoke better French

than English and still better Arabic. In addition to offering us rooms at sixty cents a night per person, he volunteered to show us the fortress and accompany us to the beach, averring that the ladies in our party would feel more comfortable if a native Sidonian was along, since the other men of the quarter were not completely trustworthy. This by the way, was a refrain heard from every male we met, all of whom comported themselves as perfect gentlemen, but used it as an excuse to limit the number of the entourage soon gathered about us. At any rate, our guide proceeded to lock up the hotel, leaving the key at the sweet-shop across the street, and escorted us to the harbour, where he hired a launch to take us to a rock island off the coast for a swim.

The beach so picturesquely depicted in my brochure was owned by the army and not open to swimmers. The tiny island proved to be somewhat of a mystery. Almost solid rock except for a small patch of sand on one side, it had in its center a large basin carved out according to our guide, by the Phoenicians, who had used it to clean and repair their ships, though this seemed somewhat farfetched, since there was no visible way to transport ships over the rock into the basin. The Phoenicians, however, made themselves felt in other ways. Under about twenty feet of water just off the island we saw huge slabs of stone fitted into what could have served either as a road or, more likely, the foundation of a building, also Phoenician, according to Sidonians. And, finally, we were told a tale of an American archaeologist -- Abdul Rahman by name -- who appeared a few years ago in Sidon and spent days alone at the island, reappearing in town later with a gold ring engraved with a Phoenician inscription, which he claimed he found on the bottom of the sea, near the slabs of rock.

The sea offered us no such treasures, but we were soon to experience Sidon hospitality. It was a Friday, and since there were no ships anchored off shore to be provisioned from the port, the chandlers were idle and after a respectful interval followed us to the island in launches and cruisers, all of which we were invited to visit. Once aboard we were presented with apples and watermelon, cigarettes and cold beer. One man offered to take us on a cruise to Cyprus. Later, back at the harbor, we were served Turkish coffee and smoked narghiles as we sat watching the sun set from an anchored launch. Meanwhile, our guide left us to reopen the hotel.

Later that night, after we had eaten at a garden restaurant, Kebab, kufta, tahina, and rice, plus grapes picked from the arbor overhead, we decided to explore the fortress by moonlight. It was closed and locked, but at the waterfront we met the driver of our launch, who, after explaining that it was not safe for us to wander around alone in Sidon at night, led us to his home through the winding streets of the market and residential area built by the Turks. The entire family -- his mother and father, two sisters and a brother -- were settled for the night on mats in the living room. At our approach, the women scurried off to change their clothes and prepare the inevitable cups of coffee. An English-speaking neighbour, also in bed, was summoned to act as interpreter for those who spoke no Lebanese Arabic.

We did not stay at Sa'deddine's house long, and it was not late when we returned to the hotel; but the clerk, who turned out to be the son of the owner, expressed concern at our absence - it was not safe, etc. - especially when we told him that we had been under the protection of Sa'deddine, had even visited his home, and were planning to go to the mountains with him in the morning. Tomorrow, we were told, we must be the guests of his - Mahir's - family. In the days at Sidon that followed we were to learn at first hand something about the religious tension which lies just beneath the seemingly calm surface of Lebanese life. Divided almost equally between Muslim and Christians, the Lebanese apportion political offices according to religious affiliations; even though it is suspected that the Muslims now constitute a majority, there has been no strong support for a new census for fear of disturbing the equilibrium on which Lebanese politics operate. Just how tenuous that equilibrium is, we could readily observe from the uneasy relationship between Sa'deddine, a Muslim, and Mahir, a Christian. When, for instance, we did go to Mahir's home the next morning for coffee, Sa'deddine was not invited in, but was left outside to wait for us. And when later we engaged a taxi-service for our trip to the mountains, Mahir at first refused to accompany us, since Sa'deddine was going with us, but then considered it his duty to go to protect us from Sa'deddine. Though it was evident from remarks made by Mahir's mother that the source of the animosity was religion, the story is more complicated than that. Mahir's family is Palestinian in origin and, like many of the Palestinian immigrants in Sidon, has incurred the resentment of native Sidonians by building up lucrative businesses and services, either, on the one hand, by investing capital they brought with them or, on the other, by working, in the beginning, at wages lower than the Sidon standard. And yet though ill feeling does exist between the different religious and ethnic groups, it is not bitter. The long and loud political argument which took place between Mahir and Sa'deddine in the mountains and which touched not just on recent events in Lebanon but in the rest of the Arab world as well, though it was sharp and the views expressed were apparently irreconcilable, was marked by no more passion than that aroused in a similar argument in the United States, and it ended in banter. We were, in fact, given living proof of how mutual interest - in this case, ourselves - unites the Lebanese, when our two friends showed up together in Beirut ten days later to invite us back to Sidon.

Sincerely,

Donald P. Little

LIBRARIES OF ALEXANDRIA

October 13, 1963

Dear Members:

For the sake of books I deserted Alexandria during her peak season. While Cairo governmental offices and foreign embassies nowadays no longer move lock, stock and barrel to Alexandria during the summer months as they did a generation ago, the influx of people from Egypt's first capital to her second

is said to be still enough to double the latter's population. Alexandrians, in turn, move to favored spots along the coast, from Mersa Matruh more than halfway to the Libyan border, to Abukir just fifteen miles to the east. Abukir is known to all as the site of the famous naval battle of 1798, in which Lord Nelson defeated the French, and to all classical archaeologists as the find spot of the gold medallions of Abukir. Mersa Matruh is ancient Paraetonium, from which Arrian tells us Alexander turned south on his journey to the oasis of Siwa, and is a choice location for summer retreats. But this Alexandrian, without a villa to his name, went to Rome for the sake of the libraries of the American Academy and the German Archaeological Institute. It is not that library resources in Egypt are so bad, but that those in Rome are so good. Actually, it is surprising how much one can find here, with a little running around.

Since I have yet to introduce myself to the riches of the library of the French Institute in Cairo, whose reopening is one of the happy consequences of recent resumption of diplomatic relations between the U. A. R. and France, and since Cairo libraries are better known to Newsletter readers, I restrict myself here to some comments on what is available in Alexandria. Most useful to me are the combined libraries of the Graeco-Roman Museum and the Alexandria Archaeological Society. These are really quite separate entities and live in different homes, but seem so very marriageable. The Museum library, reached by a spiral staircase to the rear of the administrative offices, contains about 12,000 items, one-third of which formed the private library of the learned Prince Omar Toussoun. Some of the standard reference works are here, such as Pauly-Wissowa and Cabrol-Le Clercq, and there is usually something solid in each of the various special areas that go to make up classical archaeology. One of its strong points certainly lies in older travel literature concerning Egypt, as well as massive works such as Lepsius's Denkmäler aus Agypten und Athiopien, the Description de l'Egypte, and Roberts's Egypt and Nubia. An obvious deficiency is in the periodical literature, with a few exceptions including a complete run of the American Journal of Archaeology. Practically around the corner from the Museum, on the second floor of the little building which used to house the municipal archives before the new Governorate was built, is the Society library. This consists primarily of journals received in exchange for the Society Bulletin, and thus nicely complements the Museum Library. Gaps resulting from the fact that the Bulletin has not appeared since 1956 will unfortunately be difficult to fill. There is now optimistic talk that publication will be resumed in the near future.

For recent books, one will have better luck at the University of Alexandria Faculty of Arts, though shelf system there is still something of a mystery to me. However, it is the University's Central Library, some distance away from the main campus opposite the ex-English Girls' College, which contains the two most welcome surprises. Approximately one-fifth of the prewar library of the German Archaeological Institute in Cairo was purchased by the University, and is kept here in a room of its own, easily accessible to the visiting scholar. In the general stacks, neatly kept in cardboard file boxes, is the great reprint collection of Pierre Jouguet. There is a card catalogue to this wonderful material.

A news item of considerable interest is the gift of Lucas Benachi's collection of some 65,000 stamped amphora handles to the Graeco-Roman Museum. This

has meant, among other things, an enormous amount of work for two distinguished Center members, Mr. Benachi himself, and Virginia Grace of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens.

Very truly yours,

Dawson Kiang

NOTES AND NEWS

Jozef Janssen, 1908-1963

The many friends of Father Janssen among the members of the American Research Center in Egypt are saddened by the news of his death on August 29, 1963. He was not only a fine scholar but a warm and gentle person. His charm and his quiet humor will not soon be forgotten.

For sixteen years Dr. Janssen had consecrated much of his time to the task of publishing the Annual Egyptological Bibliography, which has become an indispensable guide for those engaged in the study of Egypt. It is gratifying to learn that this great work will be continued by one of his fellow countrymen, Dr. Heerma van Voss, Egyptologist at the University of Leiden. All persons concerned are earnestly requested to send publications or references to:

Dr. M. Heerma van Voss
Nederlands Instituut vor het Nabije Oosten
Noordeindsplein 4-6
Leiden, Nederland

Financial contributions in aid of this project will be gratefully received by the

Treasurer
Oostersch Genootschap in Nederland, "Bibliography Fund"
Amsterdamsche Bank N. V.
Rapenburg 39
Leiden, Nederland

Margaret Alice Murray, 1863-1963

On November 13, 1963, Dr. Margaret Murray died at the ripe age of one hundred years. She was born in India and in her girlhood there worked with her mother for the women of that country. She was thirty when she returned to England, after study in Germany, to embark on Egyptology, under Sir Flinders Petrie. From then on, her life was divided between teaching and work in the field.

Her interests were wide and by no means confined to Egypt, though she served in the Department of Egyptology at the University of London until she was sixty-nine years of age. She went deeply into Western folklore and popular

religion and became an authority on witchcraft in Europe. In this country, she is best known for her studies in Egyptology, which she pursued with unflagging interest to the end of her life. Her published works in that field are too many to be listed here. At the age of eighty-six, she wrote The Splendor that was Egypt, a book addressed to the lay public, which she revised for a new edition in the present year. This year, too, appeared her autobiography, My First 100 Years, which she began when she was ninety-seven years old.

This writer's last glimpse of Miss Murray was in 1948, at a meeting of the International Congress of Orientalists, when she was a mere eighty-five -- a tiny, round, and rosy little woman of boundless energy, frankly and endearingly gourmande in a Paris that refused to submit to such austerity as then existed in post-war England. She possessed the true secret of longevity -- an unbounded interest in people and ideas. As she wrote in her autobiography:

"Though I ought to have regarded myself long ago as being on the shelf, I have deliberately refused to go on that uncomfortable, flat resting place, and continue to do some research, which I hope may be of use to other researchers."

The Budget of the Egyptian Department of Antiquities

A clipping from a Cairo newspaper sent to the Editor by Bernard V. Bothmer, a trustee of the Center, itemizes the current budget of the Department of Antiquities as follows:

	Egyptian Pounds
Sound and Light project at Karnak Temple	66,800
Establishment of Another Egyptian Museum	172,500
Museum for Solar Boats near the Pyramids	56,200
Museum at Luxor	30,700
Nubian Salvage Program	900,000

Field Trips in Cairo

Sunday morning field trips for the American Community in Cairo have been undertaken under the auspices of the U.A.R. - U.S.A. Educational Commission (popularly known as the Fulbright Commission). The first of the season went to the archaic cemetery at Saqqara; the second, with seventy participants, including a group of Egyptian students, visited Medum.

Excavation at Buto

The Egypt Exploration Society has been granted a concession for the excavation of Buto, the legendary birthplace of the gods and the ancient pre-dynastic capital of Lower Egypt, today called Tell el-Fara'in.

"Flying Carpets"

A recent Associated Press dispatch from Cairo announces that the Ministry of Culture has signed a contract with a British company for a number of hovercraft to carry tourists from Aswan to and from the temples of Abu Simbel. according to the Ministry, a tourist on a ship passing through the Suez Canal will be able to whiz off to visit archaeological sites in Egypt on one of these "flying carpets" and return to his liner before it has completed its traverse of the canal!

Belgian Work for the Salvage of Nubian Monuments

The small country of Belgium has been active beyond its size in the salvage program in Nubia. Its government was one of the first to respond to the UNESCO appeal for funds to preserve the temples threatened with inundation as a result of the new high dam. In 1960, its Ministry of National Education and Culture and the National Fund for Scientific Research cooperated with the Queen Elisabeth Egyptological Foundation to send two missions of documentation to Sudanese and Egyptian Nubia, headed respectively by the Egyptologists Arpeg Mekhitarian and Pierre Gilbert, to study the threatened monuments. Under the National Fund for Scientific Research, Constant de Wit of the Royal Museums of Art and History and Paul Mertens of Liege University went to Nubia in 1961 to collate the inscriptions in the Semna and Kumma temples; a photogrammetric survey of the monuments was entrusted by the Ministry of National Education and Culture to Messrs. Vermeire and Bellens of the Ministry of Public Works. Jean Stienon, a Belgian architect, lent his technical assistance in removing the temple of Dabod. Herman de Meulenaere and Phillippe Derchain have recorded the Ptolemaic inscriptions at Kalabcha.

As reported in the last number of the Newsletter, the rock temples at Abu Simbel will now be cut out, block by block, and rebuilt on the heights above their present site. This new plan, proffered by Swedish engineers, will cost \$36,000,000, a little more than half of the previously estimated \$70,000,000 for jacking up the temples entire. One-third of the expense will be borne by the United States; Egypt will contribute almost another third (around \$11,500,000) and UNESCO will foot the remainder of the bill.

PUBLICATIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE CENTER

Dunham, Dows, The Royal Cemeteries of Kush, Vol. V. The West and South Cemeteries at Meroë, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1963.

This monumental volume brings to completion the record of the Kushite cemeteries excavated for Harvard University and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts by George Andrew Reisner between 1916 and 1923. The earlier volumes by the same author include Vol. I, El Kurru (1950); Vol. II, Nuri (1955), Vol. III (by Suzanne E. Chapman), Decorated Chapels of the Meroitic Pyramids at Meroë and Barkal (1952); Vol. IV, Royal Tombs at Meroë and Barkal (1957).

The devotion shown by Dows Dunham to the publication of this very important material must serve as a model and inspiration to those who have a legacy of unpublished excavation records. On the other hand, the success of dealing with this material forty years after the event stand in testimony to the completeness and accuracy of Reisner's methods of excavation and recording.

Goedicke, Hans. "Early References to Fatalistic Concepts in Egypt," in Journal of Near Eastern Studies XXII, 1963, 187-190.

As a contribution to the study made by S. Morenz in a recent article, "Untersuchungen zur Rolle des Shicksals in der ägyptische Religion," which is largely concerned with material from the Eighteenth Dynasty, Professor Goedicke draws attention to a few interesting inscriptions from the Old and Middle Kingdoms indicating an early belief in pre-destination.

"Ein geographisches Unicum," in Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache...88, 1963, 83-97.

We have here a re-examination of a text from the Temple of Horus at Edfu, known to Egyptologists for around a hundred years. Professor Goedicke makes new and valuable additions to the study of the inscription, which furnishes unique indications for the geography of the Delta. It also reveals a cosmological concept of the earth as a disk surrounded by ocean, which might be thought to have been derived from the Greeks, but which Dr. Goedicke shows to have existed, though rarely, before any likelihood of Greek influence. The article concludes with a discussion of the word *bnt*.

"Zur Chronologie der sogenannten 'Ersten Zwischenzeit,'" in Zeitschrift der Deutschen Morgenländischen Gesellschaft 112 (n.f. 37), 1963, 239-254.

This stimulating article offers arguments for a revised chronology of the First Intermediate Period, which has recently been critically re-examined also by other scholars. In the course of his study, the author goes far toward shattering some pleasant historical illusions. He gives reasons for doubting that Queen Nitocris (according to Manetho 'the noblest and loveliest of the women of her time') ever existed -- was merely the result of, so to speak, a misprint; and he warns that Ipuwer's famous "Admonitions", while undoubtedly containing a grain of historical truth, should not be taken as a literal picture of the entire country or the entire period. Historical documents in the strict sense of the words are rare for the First Intermediate Period, but those that exist furnish evidence for fewer kings and a shortened chronology.

Review of the Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt, I, in American Journal of Archaeology 67, 1963, 423-424.

After a brief discussion of the Journal and its contents, Professor Goedicke concludes that "the periodical deserves the attention and support of all persons interested in Egypt."

Parker, Richard A. A Saite Oracle Papyrus from Thebes in the Brooklyn Museum...., edited with translation and commentary by Richard A. Parker.... with a chapter by Jaroslav Černý Providence, Brown University Press, 1962.

In the year 14 of Psamtik I, on the fifth day of the first month of Shomu (October 4, 651 B. C.), the occasion being the festival of the new lunar month, there was a procession of Amon-Re', in his shrine borne by twenty priests. Before the shrine went the more important members of the religious hierarchy, headed by the venerable Montuemhet, Fourth Prophet of Amon and Overseer of Upper Egypt, who is well-known to posterity for his beautiful tomb at Thebes, many reliefs from which are now in the United States. When the procession halted at the Hall of Review, a priest named Pemou sought of the god an oracle in favor of his father, Harsiese, who wished to leave the service of Amon-Re' for that of the god Montu-Re'-Haakhti. Amon granted his request, and to record the favorable verdict Pemou had a papyrus written in elegant hieratic by Amenemhet, Prophet of Montu and Scribe of Oracles of the House of Amon, and illustrated by an artist of the temple with a large vignette showing the procession. Amenemhet signed the document and forty-nine dignitaries, Montuemhet first and the High Priest last, witnessed the account, each in his own hand.

It is this papyrus, with its beautiful vignette and "its unique autographs of famous personages long known in Egyptian history" that is the subject of Professor Parker's scholarly study, to which Professor Černý adds a valuable supplement in a chapter on "Egyptian Oracles" from their first appearance in the Eighteenth Dynasty down to the Islamic conquest.

Schulman, Alan R. "A Cult of Ramesses III at Memphis," in Journal of Near Eastern Studies XXII, 1963, 177-184. Plate.

The writer deals with an inscription discovered at Memphis by the expedition of the Museum of the University of Pennsylvania in 1915, which indicates that Ramesses III, like his predecessor Ramessis II, was worshipped as a god during his lifetime. The present location of this inscription, retained in Egypt, has not been determined.

Simpson, William Kelly. Review of The Hekanakht Papers and Other Early Middle Kingdom Documents, by T.G.H. James (Publications of the Metropolitan Museum of Art Egyptian Expedition 19, 1962), in American Journal of Archaeology 67, 1963, 423. Plates.

The most important of the documents here reviewed are the Hekanakht letters, which Dr. James has given their first definitive publication. Known to Egyptologists for around thirty years through preliminary translations and to a wider public through a mystery story by Agatha Christie, Death Comes as the End, which was based on those translations, these letters

are among the most human documents surviving from ancient Egypt, for they give a vivid glimpse into the lives and personalities of a family living on an estate in the Theban region during the Middle Kingdom. In the present detailed publication, as the reviewer notes, "the garrulous old Hekankht's personality and his dealings with his family, with favoritism to some and severity to others, naturally receives less attention than the details of these often difficult texts and the land measures cited."

Terrace, Edward L. B. "Two Achaemenian Objects in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts," in Antike Kunst 6, 1963, 72-80. Plates.

The objects here described are a silver bowl of rare beauty with palmette decorations enriched by overlays of gold and a small silver sculpture of a mouflon with gilded details. In a lucid, well-written and well-illustrated article, Mr. Terrace offers a detailed analysis of the palmette-lotus frieze as developed in the ancient Near East and discusses the evolution of animal sculpture in Persia.